

Approved For Release 2000/08/26 : CIA-RDP75-00149R000200030012-7

1958

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE X 3-2

12239

drafted by the distinguished junior Senator from Minnesota [Mr. HUMPHREY] and myself, with the assistance of the Wilderness Society and many other outstanding conservation groups.

I ask unanimous consent to have the editorial printed at this point in the body of the RECORD.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Bend Bulletin of July 5, 1958]

THE WILDERNESS BILL

Back in the last session of Congress Senator HUMPHREY introduced the so-called wilderness bill, which this newspaper, along with a number of foresters and forestry groups, opposed.

Opposition to the bill was quite widespread. Both the major land-management agencies of the Federal Government—Agriculture and Interior—objected to it.

There was one basic reason for the immediate opposition to the measure. Most of the opponents feared the freezing of large acreages into a permanent wilderness status by legislative means.

Of course, there are large wilderness areas already. But they have been created by administrative action, which is considerably more flexible than legislative action by Congress.

The need for this flexibility has been obvious during recent years. New methods of handling forests and regrowth problems, along with new means of forest utilization, have made a considerable difference in forest planning, for example. Vast areas which once were considered useless from a commercial point of view—the lodgepole pine and mountain hemlock of central Oregon included among them—are gaining in potential value each year.

At the same time this newspaper for many years has taken a back seat to no one in pointing up the need to preserve various unique features for the benefit of later generations. Many of these features are located within shouting distance of Bend.

True, they have limited use at the present time. But that use is increasing. An increasing number of persons are discovering the enjoyment of recreation areas minus automobiles, motorboats, electric lights, and some of the other doubtful advantages of civilization.

Sponsors of the original wilderness bill have made sincere efforts to meet the original objections expressed to the measure.

Revisions have been made, particularly, that do not put such a hard-and-fast "freeze" on the resources locked up in the wilderness area. As far as this newspaper is concerned, most of the objectionable features either have been removed or so toned down as to make the present version of the bill entirely acceptable.

One of the problems in determining Federal policy on such knotty questions as a wilderness system has been the multiplicity of management of federally owned or federally managed lands.

This Humphrey bill, in support of which Oregon's Senator NEUBERGER has been most active, is an attempt to set up a workable national policy. It deserves support.

THE VICE PRESIDENT. Is there further morning business? If not, morning business is concluded.

ACCEPTANCE OF DECORATIONS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES BY CERTAIN RETIRED PERSONNEL OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MR. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the unanimous-consent agreement on the minerals bill, the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar 1464, S. 3195, with the understanding that the time for its consideration be limited to not more than 5 minutes. It is hoped that we may be able to proceed to the consideration of the bill, accept an amendment to it by the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. COOPER], and pass it. The distinguished former Senator, Warren Austin, is included in the bill. The Senators from Vermont [Mr. AIKEN and Mr. FLANDERS] have discussed the bill with me.

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. FLANDERS] must leave the Chamber by 11:30 this morning. I have also discussed the matter with the minority leader and, so far as I know, there is no objection to the bill. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 1464, S. 3195, notwithstanding the unanimous-consent agreement on the minerals bill.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Secretary will state the bill by title for the information of the Senate.

THE LEGISLATIVE CLERK. A bill (S. 3195) to authorize certain retired personnel of the United States Government to accept and wear decorations, presents, and other things tendered them by certain foreign countries.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill is open to amendment.

MR. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, the bill applies only to retired personnel. The Senator from Kentucky desires to offer an amendment. I am informed that the committee is delighted to accept it. If the Senator will send his amendment to the desk, I hope the Senate will include it in the bill.

MR. COOPER. Mr. President, I send an amendment to the desk and ask that it be stated. I thank the distinguished majority leader for accepting the amendment. It adds one name to the list of distinguished recipients. He is Adm. Gene Markey, a distinguished resident of Kentucky.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment will be stated.